



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative David Cook (R-8)

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007-2844

Tuesday, March 21, 2017
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Representative Cook Sends Letter to U.S. Senator Jeff Flake Requesting Farm Bill Field Hearing in Arizona

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Representative David Cook (R-8) today sent a letter to U.S. Senator Jeff Flake (R-AZ) urging him to organize a field hearing in Arizona to discuss the Farm Bill and the state's opportunities to capitalize on new growth in the agriculture industry.

“It’s important that the producers of Arizona have the opportunity to be included in the debate on the next Farm Bill, and a field hearing in Arizona would give them that opportunity,” said Representative Cook.

A copy of the letter can be found here:

<http://www.azleg.gov/press/house/53Leg/1R/170321FarmBillHearing.pdf>

Text of the letter can be found below.

March 20, 2017

*The Honorable Senator Jeff Flake
Senate Russell Office Building 413
Washington, D.C. 20510*

RE: Farm Bill Hearing in Arizona

Dear Senator Flake:

Arizona agriculture is a \$17 billion-dollar industry providing wholesome, high quality products to the residents of Arizona, this great nation and the world. As you are aware, Congress is starting to deliberate the next Farm Bill which will have an impact on many of the producers here in Arizona. Farm and ranch families rely on policies in this legislation to support commodity prices, assist in disaster-type situations, and allow individuals to improve working landscapes on both private and public lands.

Arizona is unique and because of our access to water and our favorable climate, we are able to produce high quality products efficiently. Infrastructure and our proximity to Mexico and other ports allow access to world markets for our commodities. Arizona agriculture is important to the citizens of Arizona, the nation and the world.

I am respectfully requesting your assistance in organizing a Farm Bill hearing session in Arizona as soon as possible. Arizona has some great opportunities to capitalize on new growth in the agriculture industry. It is important that the producers of Arizona have the opportunity to be included in the debate on the next Farm Bill. I encourage you to reach out to your colleagues to provide this opportunity.

I am offering my services and the service of my office to make this happen. I would be happy to work with you and your staff to help secure a Farm Bill hearing in Casa Grande. I believe this is a great opportunity for Congress and producers to talk about the issues facing the southwest. Arizona's unique landscape and diverse operations are a success story, and we can also provide critical information for those drafting the upcoming Farm Bill.

I am optimistic that we can accomplish this hearing by working together to give Arizona's farm and ranch families a voice in the next Farm Bill. I look forward to hearing from you about this opportunity.

Sincerely,

*David L. Cook
Representative, LD 8
DC:fm*

*c.c. Bas Aja, Arizona Cattlemen's Association
Patrick Bray, Arizona Cattlemen's Association*

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